



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety
and Inspection
Service

Washington, D.C.
20250

MAY 16 2002

Dr. R.M. McCracken
Chief Veterinary Officer
Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3SB
Northern Ireland

Dear Dr. McCracken:

Enclosed is a copy of the Final report of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) November 28 through December 7, 2001, audit of Northern Ireland's meat inspection system. We received your March 25, 2002 letter providing comments to the draft final report. Accordingly, this letter was incorporated into the Final report as Attachment "G."

We appreciate the corrective actions taken by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to address the laboratory deficiencies noted during the audit. If I can provide further information regarding this audit, please contact me by telephone (202-720-3781), facsimile (202-690-4040), or email (sally.stratmoen@fsis.usda.gov). You may also contact Richard Brown by telephone (202-690-2679), facsimile (202-720-7990) or email (richard.brown@fsis.usda.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/ Sally Stratmoen, Chief
Equivalence Section
International Policy Staff
Office of Policy, Program Development
And Evaluation

Enclosure

cc: James Hughes, Agriculture Attaché, British Embassy, Washington, DC
Peter Kurz, Minister Counselor, FAS, U.S. Embassy, London
John Wilson, Area Officer, FAS
Bob Macke, FAS
Mary Revelt, Minister Counselor (Agriculture), USEU/Brussels
Gerry Keily, Counselor (Agriculture), EU Mission to the U.S., Washington, DC
Amy Winton, State Department
Ronald Hicks, Acting AA, FSIS
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Donald Smart, Dir. Review Staff, TSC, FSIS
Sally Stratmoen, Chief, ES, IPS, FSIS
Karen Stuck, Acting Director, IPS
Steve McDermott, ES, IPS, FSIS
Country File-Northern Ireland (Audit – FY 2002)

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